

Gambling Control Board Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2006
45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, Maine

Meeting opened at 12:40 p.m.

Board members present: Chairman George McHale, W. Lawrence Hall, Michael Peters, Peter Danton and Cushing Samp.

Staff members present: Exec. Director Robert Welch, Sgt. Robin Parker, Lt. Patrick Fleming, Auditor Scott Woods and Secretary Kathy Chamberlain.

Legal counsel: Melissa O'Dea, Ass't Attorney General

****Minutes from October 26, 2006 meeting approved.**

Motion to accept: Mike Peters

Seconded: Cushing

Vote: 5-0

****Executive Director's Report – Robert Welch**

- Explanation of the Fund for Healthy Maine slot revenue recipient: So far, this account has received three million dollars from revenues. There is no empirical data indicating whether it has affected the cost of prescription drugs.
- Racing purses contain \$8,000 more per race.
- Gaming Unit Practices and Procedures: Mr. Welch has written up a document, outlining his job duties, procedures for implementation to carry out the duties and other pertinent information which will be on file as a reference for the unit.
- Updated Notebook of Rules and Laws for the Board was passed out to the board, containing the current versions of applicable statutes and rules.
- Gambling Control Conference Room Wiring Project was discussed briefly. Mr. Welch is waiting to see if the money will be in his budget to proceed with the project.
- Upcoming Rule Submissions: Mr. Welch met with Bruce Badger of Hollywood Slots to discuss the rule that applies to surveillance for live monitoring of non-gambling areas. Mr. Badger wanted confirmation that this did not apply to public areas, such as parking lots.
- Progressive Gaming's (formerly called Mikohn) business entity application has been received and is being processed.
- The financial page on our website will be updated soon with a new format.
- An Act to Allow a Casino in Oxford County was passed out to the Board. A representative from Evergreen Mountain Enterprises, LLC met with Dir. Welch last week and provided as informational copies of the proposed ballot initiative the group intends to submit once they get enough signatures, for the November 2007 ballot.

****Financial Update – Scott Woods**

Board members received Mr. Wood's weekly revenue sheet. He advised that the State of Maine Audit Department is auditing the Gambling Control Unit – so far everything is going well. He continues to check with the different slot revenue recipients to make sure all is orderly and they are receiving the dedicated funds in their individual accounts.

****State Police Activity Update – Sgt. Robin Parker**

- Sgt. Parker advised the Board that the State Police staff has a system of checks and balances to make sure all is in order at the Racino. They inspect security logs, surveillance logs and individual reports received on a daily basis to make sure the operator is adhering to the Internal Controls.
- There was a recent theft of a \$1,000 voucher; Bangor P.D. has made an arrest.
- Det. Armstrong went to Las Vegas recently to conduct some interviews of key executives.
- 22 applications have been received and being processed since the last Board meeting.

****Unfinished Business:**

None.

****New Business:**

Dir. Welch will mail out some proposed rules in the next week or so.

● Public Comments

Jon Johnson, General Mgr of Hollywood Slots (HS), provided the Board with a financial report for the period of November 2005 through November 2006, which shows that 936,672 guests have visited Hollywood Slots during the first year open, and also shows the cumulative revenue amounts that have gone to each designated account for the past year. Mr. Johnson also stated that the dedicated revenue received by Bangor Historic Track, approximately \$400,000, helped to offset losses. The Track made improvements costing about \$1.2 million. The O.T.B. will be moved to the new facility. Asked if the horsemen minded the move away from the track, Mr. Johnson replied that they appeared to be o.k. with it, because it will tie racing in with the racino.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Next meeting dates are set for **Wednesday, January 17, 2007 and Wednesday, February 14, 2007.**